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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/606,304	06/25/2003	David Wayne Daniels	DEP5083	8039

27777 7590 04/18/2007
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NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ 08933-7003

EXAMINER

HOFFMAN, MARY C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3733

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/18/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/606,304	DANIELS ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mary Hoffman	3733	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 February 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 9-29 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 5-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10/24/2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 02/01/2007 has been entered.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

On page 1, lines 6-7, Applicant makes reference to two concurrently filed applications ("DEP 670" and "DEP 651"), and should submit an amendment to the specification containing the correct application numbers.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kashuba et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,908,423).

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kashuba et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,908,423).

Kashuba et al. disclose a reamer (see FIG. 2) for preparing a cavity in the intramedullary canal a long bone, the reamer comprising a first component (ref. #22) for preparation of the cavity in the canal, the first component including a portion thereof for placement at least partially in the cavity of the long bone, the first component defining a rotational centerline thereof; and a rigid second component (ref. #44) operably connected to the first component, the second component defining a rotational centerline thereof, the rotational centerline of the first component and the rotational centerline of the second component having a first relationship in which the centerlines are coincident and a second relationship in which the centerlines are skewed with respect to each other (see FIG. 4). The reamer further comprises a joint (ref. #29, #47, FIG. 2) operably connected to the first component and to the second component, the joint adapted to provide the first relationship in which the centerlines are coincident and the second relationship in which the centerlines are skewed with respect to each other. The first component includes a portion thereof having a tapered external periphery (see bottom of ref. #22); and wherein the second component includes a portion thereof having a drive connection (ref. #48a). The reamer further includes a securing feature to rigidly attach (col. 6, 66-end and col. 7, lines 1-3) the first component the second component; the securing feature comprises a pin (ref. #12). The first component and the second

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component are hinged to each other. The first component and the second component define openings (ref. #24, #49) therein for receiving the pin.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 02/01/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that Kashuba lacks a rigid second component. Applicant states that Kashuba discloses "a reaming system that includes a flexible shaft 12 and a first reamer 14 and a second reamer 22", and "the purpose of Kashuba is to have a flexible shaft that is capable of bending so as to ream a curved shape." The examiner reminds Applicant that the examiner is defining the second component as ref. #44 (see FIG. 4), not ref. #12. The examiner is not considering the flexible shaft to be the "second component"; rather, the flexible shaft of Kashuba is being considered as the "pin" of Applicant's "securing feature". Therefore, applicant's argument that the flexible shaft is not the "rigid second component" recited in claim 1 is irrelevant since component ref. #44 is being considered the "rigid second component", not the component denoted by ref. #12.

The rejection is deemed proper.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mary Hoffman whose telephone number is 571-272-5566. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00-5:00pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eduardo C. Robert can be reached on 571-272-4719. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MCH



EDUARDO C. ROBERT
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER